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Journal

Office of Legislative Counsel

Tuesday - 23 February 1954

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1. Mr. Fred Rhodes, of the staff of the Senate Armed Services Committee, called to state that Mr. Robert Sprague, Special Consultant to the Committee, desired as soon as possible any information regarding the existence of two heavy Soviet bombers which were the subject of newspaper articles on 15 February. Mr. Sprague desired our evaluation of these aircraft, if in fact there were such aircraft, and their range, ceiling and speed. The Acting DD/I informed me that at present the Air Force was carrying the ball for the intelligence community in evaluating these reports, and with the approval of the DCI I suggested to Mr. Sprague that he call General Samford, Air Force Director of Intelligence. Mr. Sprague asked me whether CIA had reached any evaluation of its own, and I stated that we were working closely with the Air Force, whose initial responsibility it is.

2. Mr. Sprague also desires to include in his Top Secret report (which will be in one copy only) the names of those CIA officers who briefed him. I informed him that we would prefer that he indicate ~~only~~ that he had been briefed by officials of CIA as we preferred to remain anonymous in these matters. He stated that the names of all other persons who had briefed him had been included in his report and asked that we allow him to have the names in full for inclusion.

3. Senator Frank Carlson (R., Kans.), Chairman of the Senate Committee on Post Office & Civil Service, and Congressman Edward Rees, Chairman of the House Committee on Post Office & Civil Service, lunched with the DCI today. Those present were the DCI, DDCI, Acting DDA, General Counsel, Legislative Counsel, AD/Personnel, and DAD/Personnel. Following the luncheon a short organization briefing was given them. We discussed the possibility of securing an exemption from the Performance Rating Act of 1950, and both Chairmen suggested that such an exemption could easily be tacked on to some general bill before the end of the Session. In addition, we discussed the CIA leave problem, to which both members were sympathetic and I will discuss it further with Mr. Belen, chief of the House Committee staff, to work out a way in which this can be achieved.

4. I talked with Congressman Rodino (D., N. J.) regarding the possibility of a meeting with [redacted] met with the State Department this afternoon and a CIA man [redacted] was included. A repre-

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sentative of DD/P was also present through arrangement with State Department.

5. I talked with Mr. Sprankle, Assistant Chief Clerk of the House Appropriations Committee who informed me that he had no idea when Chairman Taber might wish to come to CIA, but he was of the impression that Mr. Taber desired to visit several of our buildings to inspect what we were doing.

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7. Mr. Welch, of the office of Senator Lehman, called to inquire whether we had any information concerning [redacted]

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[redacted] After checking with [redacted] of Staff C, who reports we have no information on [redacted]
[redacted] I so informed Mr. Welch.

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